

Emergency
Management
Performance
Grant (EMPG)
Program

Federal Fiscal
Year

2026

Local Grant
Guidance

State of Alaska
Department of Military
and Veterans Affairs
Division of Homeland
Security and
Emergency
Management

2026 Emergency Management Performance Grant LOCAL JURISDICTION APPLICATION AND GUIDANCE

The federal fiscal year (FY) 2026 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) continues the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) and the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management's (DHS&EM) efforts to sustain and enhance all-hazards emergency management capabilities. Emergency management must coordinate in the context of natural and man-made hazards, as well as technological events, that threaten the security of the homeland and the safety and well-being of citizens. **The State of Alaska directs that EMPG Program funds only be used to support emergency management staff salaries for activities outlined in your application work plan.**

EMPG 2026 Requirements

- Jurisdictions shall complete and submit the 2026 EMPG Application and Signatory Authority Form.
- The 2026 EMPG performance period will be twelve months, beginning October 1, 2026, and ending September 30, 2027.
- EMPG mid-year expenditures will be reviewed by DHS&EM following the second quarter reports due April 20, 2027. Jurisdictions shall be required to provide a detailed spending plan to DHS&EM if they have expended less than 45% of the awarded funds.
- EMPG-funded personnel—to include those performing emergency management duties and used as the required match **must have the required FEMA independent study (IS) NIMS courses completed by December 31, 2026.**
- Jurisdictions are required to have met, at a minimum, the National Qualifications System (NQS) Implementation Phase 3 by December 31, 2026. See the [FY2025 Preparedness Grants Manual](#), Section 12.2.3, National Qualifications System Implementation for more information.
- Jurisdictions shall develop a multi-year Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) to be submitted to mva.dhsem.training@alaska.gov no later than March 2, 2027.
- Jurisdictions will complete THIRA/SPR survey as requested by DHS&EM *once a year*. A NIMS Implementation survey will be completed NLT October 31st of each grant year. Notifications, surveys, and completion verification will be done by email. A copy of the submission email will need to be included with the applicable quarterly report.
- Jurisdictions shall participate in DHS&EM's Emergency Management Conference and attend the State's IPPW in its entirety, to be held in conjunction with the Emergency Management Conference.
- Jurisdictions shall complete the Local Staging Area (LSA) and Commodity Point of Distribution (CPOD) surveys.
- Subrecipients of EMPG awards must complete and return the Subrecipient Certification of Compliance with Foreign National Vetting Requirements letter
- As subrecipients of federal preparedness (non-disaster) grant awards, jurisdictions

must achieve, or be actively working to achieve, all of the NIMS Implementation Objectives, <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-managers/nims/implementation-training>.

- Comply with the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Standard Terms and Conditions. Terms and conditions flow down to subrecipients unless a term or condition specifically indicates otherwise. The current FY 2026 DHS Terms and Conditions can be found online here <https://www.dhs.gov/publication/dhs-standard-terms-and-conditions>. Significant changes to these terms are in effect this fiscal year. It is recommended that they be reviewed at the time of application as well as when received via the obligating award document.

INTRODUCTION

The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) provides federal funds to assist state, local, tribal, and territorial governments in preparing for all hazards, as authorized by Section 662 of the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act (6 U.S.C. § 762) and the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 5121 et seq.). State of Alaska leaders recognize that both the state and local governments must work to protect their citizens by developing comprehensive, risk-based, all-hazards emergency management programs. Emergency management must be able to coordinate in the context of natural and man-made hazards, as well as technological events to implement the National Preparedness System (NPS) and to support the National Preparedness Goal (the Goal) of a secure and resilient nation. An all-hazards approach to preparedness, including developing a comprehensive program of planning, training, and exercises, sets the stage for an effective and consistent response to any threatened or actual disaster or emergency, regardless of the cause. The EMPG addresses the increasing range and complexity of disasters, supports the variety of communities we serve, and complements the nation's growing expectations of the emergency management community by meeting the following objectives:

- 1) Building or sustaining those capabilities that are identified as priorities through the Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)/Stakeholder Preparedness Review (SPR) Quarterly Survey process, Multi-year Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP), and other relevant information sources;
- 2) Closing capability gaps that are identified in the state or territory's most recent SPR; and
- 3) Building continuity capabilities to ensure the resilience of essential governmental functions and services.

When developing local priorities, applicants should consider the following national priorities:

- Extreme Weather Resilience; and
- Readiness

a. Extreme Weather Resilience

Extreme weather is one of the greatest challenges facing emergency managers today. To meet this challenge, the emergency management field needs to anticipate the increasing demands generated by more extreme and frequent disasters, from wildfires and coastal storms to inland flooding. Additionally, emergency managers must learn to manage and support weather-related emergencies such as drought and extreme heat. The emergency management community must aim to strengthen capabilities for extreme weather events by better understanding extreme weather risks and identifying mitigation strategies and other preparedness actions necessary to address those risks. This includes expanded training and capacity-building for emergency managers and first responders at the state and local level. Additionally, emergency managers at the federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local levels need to undertake targeted efforts to increase resilience in the most disaster vulnerable communities.

b. Readiness

As disasters become more frequent, severe, and complex, the demands placed upon the emergency management community have increased dramatically. To adapt to this trend, FEMA and the emergency management community must expand our approach to readiness, preparedness, continuity, and resiliency by increasing the overall emergency management capabilities at the state and local government level, as well as the private sector, the nonprofit sector, and among individuals. The National Capability Targets provide a shared vision of the staff, expertise, tools, and resources required to build a prepared nation. Aligning state and local readiness plans to these targets will ensure agencies can continuously support the needs and priorities identified by whole community partners, in addition to continuity of government across all hazards.

Recognizing that every state and territory has its own unique preparedness and emergency management needs, the national priorities above should inform the identification of state/territory priorities and regional priorities. FEMA Region X has established the following priorities:

Mission Area	Core Capability	Target Name
Response	Mass Care Services	Community Sheltering; Relocation Assistance
Response	Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Medical Services	Triage and Initial Stabilization; Emergency Medical Services; Definitive Care
Response	Critical Transportation	Debris Removal; Establishing Access; Evacuation
Response	Logistics and Supply Chain Management	Life-Sustaining Goods Delivery
Response	Operational Communications	Operational Communications

Cross-Cutting: Mitigation, Preparedness, Response, Recovery	Planning; Operational Coordination; Risk Management for Protection Programs and Activities	State and Local Capacity Building
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Federal FY 2026 Program Requirements (Alaska State Requirements Follow This Section)

Guidelines from the FEMA Grant Programs Directorate (GPD) have the following stipulations concerning the use of funding received from the EMPG program. Funds may be used for a range of emergency management planning programs to accomplish the following initiatives.

- **Emergency Management Organization Program.** Programs must continue to fund necessary aspects of the emergency management program that support day-to-day preparedness, response, and recovery activities, including mitigation efforts.
- **National Preparedness Goal (NPG) and National Incident Management System (NIMS).** Emergency management programs must update or modify their operational plans, training, and exercise activities, as necessary, to achieve conformance with the NPG and the NIMS implementation guidelines, coordinating structures, processes, and protocols, as required. Federal departments and agencies are mandating that applicants certify that current NIMS requirements are met to qualify for preparedness grant funding.
- **National Qualifications System (NQS) Implementation.** The NQS is a process that strengthens the Resource Management component of NIMS. The purpose of the NQS implementation objectives is to provide specific benchmarks and example activities for organizations and jurisdictions to use when implementing NQS and when discussing NQS implementation with their partners or other jurisdictions. The objectives help to bring organizational qualification procedures, certification programs and credentialing standards in alignment with the NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System.
- **Annual THIRA/SPR/NIMS Implementation Survey.** The survey will inform the State of Alaska Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA). It will also support local jurisdictions' efforts to identify gaps in prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery by providing valuable deliverables. State and local jurisdictions should also continue to focus on addressing state-specific planning.
- **Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP).** Recipients must have a current multi-year IPP identifying preparedness priorities and activities. IPPs should include all planning, training, and exercise activities funded by the EMPG Program.
- **Integrated Preparedness Planning Workshop (IPPW).** The IPP is the product of the IPPW. Recipients are expected to engage senior leaders and other community stakeholders to identify preparedness priorities specific to training and exercise needs, which will guide the development of a state/territory multi-year IPP. States are required to conduct an annual IPPW. All subrecipients are required to develop a

multi-year IPP, update it annually, and attend the State's IPPW.

- **Distribution Management Plan.** The Distribution Management Plan (DMP) provides actionable guidance for state and local agencies, private-sector and nonprofit partners, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to efficiently distribute critical resources to disaster survivors in the community. Collaboration among these stakeholders supports supply chain augmentation during a response operation.
- **Hazard Mitigation Plans.** Mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. This is achieved through risk analysis, which results in information that provides a foundation for mitigation activities that reduce risk and flood insurance that protects financial investment. Maintaining an updated Hazard Mitigation Plan through the document's five-year life is essential to be able to apply for various federal grants to accomplish stated mitigation activities.
- **Emergency Management and Operations Plans.** A plan is usually developed per the guidance in the Guide for the Development of State and Local Emergency Operations Plans, Comprehensive Preparedness Guide 101 Version 3 (CPG 101 V3), and other similar guides. The emergency operations plan clearly and concisely describes a jurisdiction's emergency organization, its means of coordination with other jurisdictions, and its approach to protecting people and property from disasters and emergencies caused by any of the hazards to which the community is particularly vulnerable. It assigns functional responsibilities to the elements of the emergency organization. It details tasks to be carried out at times and places projected as accurately as permitted by the nature of each situation. Emergency operations plans are multi-hazard, operational plans that treat emergency management activities generically. They have a primary section that provides generally applicable information without reference to any particular hazard. They also address the unique aspects of individual disasters in hazard-specific appendixes.
- **Continuity of Operations (COOP) and Continuity of Government (COG).** COOP and COG planning is the fundamental responsibility of local jurisdictions that perform essential functions. To conduct necessary emergency operations, recovery actions, and other key essential functions during a large-scale or catastrophic event, the jurisdiction must have effective COOP plans in place to support continued operations. COOP efforts also provide the foundational basis for COG programs, such as succession planning, designed to ensure the continued existence of leadership and an enduring constitutional government. Recipients are expected to work toward developing continuity plans for the assured performance of government essential functions and services as well as associated supporting activities. These plans should be consistent with the Continuity Guidance Circular and associated Continuity Assessment Tool. For additional information on continuity programs, guidance, and technical assistance, refer to the FEMA Continuity Resource Toolkit
- **Whole Community Preparedness**
EMPG Program recipients should engage with the whole community to advance community and individual preparedness and to work as a nation to build and sustain resilience. Recipients should integrate program design and delivery practices that ensure representation and services for disaster vulnerable populations that may be

more impacted by disasters, including children, seniors, individuals with disabilities or other access and functional needs, individuals with diverse cultural and language use, individuals with lower economic capacity, and other disaster vulnerable populations.

Individual preparedness should be coordinated by an integrated body of government and nongovernmental representatives as well, including but not limited to, elected officials, the private sector (especially privately owned critical infrastructure), private nonprofits, nongovernmental organizations (including faith-based, community-based, and voluntary organizations), advocacy groups for disaster vulnerable populations that may be more impacted by disasters including children, seniors, individuals with disabilities or other access and functional needs, individuals with diverse culture and language use, individuals with lower economic capacity, and other disaster vulnerable populations. By engaging these stakeholders, EMPG Program recipients can help FEMA develop and promote a suite of well-targeted solutions for individuals and communities to adopt. Recipients should coordinate preparedness initiatives with FEMA and whole community partners to efficiently apply federal funding to reach the goal of individual and community resilience.

- **Resource Management Planning.** Emergency management and incident response activities require carefully managed resources (personnel, teams, facilities, equipment, and supplies) to meet incident needs. Utilizing standardized resource management concepts such as typing, inventorying, organizing, and tracking will facilitate the dispatch, deployment, and recovery of resources before, during, and after an incident. Resource management should be flexible and scalable in order to support any incident and be adaptable to changes. Efficient and effective deployment of resources requires that resource management concepts and principles be used in all phases of emergency management and incident response.
- **Evacuation Planning.** Evacuation planning encompasses not only the movement of people but also alerts, warnings, crisis communications, the ability to care for those displaced people, and the ability to plan for re-entry. While levels of planning for this focus area will vary greatly depending on the jurisdiction, it should be noted that urban areas should have detailed plans to address issues associated with this focus.
- **Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning.** Pre-disaster recovery planning enables local jurisdictions to direct recovery activities and expedite a unified recovery effort effectively. Pre-disaster plans provide a common platform to guide recovery decisions and actions. When done in conjunction with local and regional comprehensive and community development, pre-disaster planning helps to identify recovery priorities, incorporate hazard mitigation strategies in the wake of a disaster, and articulate post-disaster options. By integrating and coordinating planning initiatives, a community further increases local resilience. In addition to the general elements of the pre-disaster planning process, there are also elements specific to the various participants in the process. The responsibility of preparing for disaster recovery begins with the individual and builds to the larger responsibility of the community and local government. Community planning efforts are supported by voluntary, faith-based and community organizations; businesses; and local, state, tribal, and federal governments.

- **Recovery Planning.** Those capabilities necessary to assist communities affected by an incident to recover effectively, including, but not limited to, rebuilding infrastructure systems; providing adequate interim and long-term housing for survivors; restoring health, social, and community services; promoting economic development; and restoring natural and cultural resources.
- **Implementation of Community Lifelines Concepts.** EMPG funding can be used to assist emergency managers with implementing community lifelines. The lifelines concept simplifies incident information to provide decision-makers with identified impacts to critical community services and root causes that inform response and recovery actions. The Community Lifelines Implementation Toolkit (<https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/177222>) provides whole community partners with the information and resources to understand lifelines and to coordinate with entities using lifelines. The toolkit serves as basic guidance for implementing the lifeline construct during incident response.
- **Readiness.** Through better coordination of pre-disaster programs, we help communities identify, prioritize, and plan to address their specific community-based threats, identify hazards and risks, and mitigate capability gaps. Allowable Readiness activities can be across many National Priority areas.

All costs under these categories must be eligible under the *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*.

The State of Alaska Requirements

The State of Alaska's EMPG Program imposes requirements to mirror or supplement federal guidance.

In Alaska, EMPG Program funds strengthen local government efforts by providing direct financial support for local community staff engaged in all-hazards and emergency management planning. The goals of such planning are to coordinate, integrate, and encourage the improvement, development, and sustainment of mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities for all-hazards. In addition, funds provided under the EMPG Program may, and should, be used to support local staff who contribute to terrorism consequence management preparedness. The International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) defines emergency management as "the managerial function charged with creating the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters."

The State of Alaska directs that EMPG Program funds will ONLY be used to support direct emergency management staff salaries for the activities proposed on the work plan. A jurisdiction may hire a contractor to conduct these activities in lieu of funding staff.

Communities are expected to develop emergency management systems that build partnerships between government, business, volunteer, community organizations, and Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC).

Eligibility and Selection Criteria

Requirements

This is an invitation-only grant. Participation is based on meeting specific criteria and historical involvement in emergency management-related programs. Under the EMPG Program, participants ARE REQUIRED TO:

- Designate an Emergency Manager or Emergency Management Coordinator from among the paid jurisdiction staff. This person will be the focal point for local emergency planning and the designated Project Manager for the EMPG Program grant. Federal EMPG funds cannot replace (supplant) funds that have been locally appropriated for the same purpose.
- Submit an EMPG Program application with the required attachments, including the Annual Work Plan outlining planned emergency management activities to be conducted during the grant performance period of October 1, 2026, through September 30, 2027.

Funding Levels

Funding to jurisdictions applying for the EMPG Program will be based on the following criteria:

- The level of development of the local emergency management agency, e.g., is the Emergency Manager or Coordinator full-time, part-time or assigned as an extra duty to an existing staff position.
- The ability of the community to implement an emergency management program, e.g., organizational structure, fiscal controls, staffing levels, performance history, and experienced personnel.
- The population size that could potentially be affected by a major disaster.
- If previously a recipient of EMPG Program funding, the applicant must have successfully completed all prior requirements and reports.

Funding Goals

Program funding goals for FY 2026 are listed below.

- The Emergency Manager or Coordinator position is a full-time position, a part-time position, or an additional duty assigned in a position description.
- The community successfully completes all reports identified under the EMPG Program on time.
- The community provides public education and information on all-hazards disaster preparedness.
- The community develops and maintains up-to-date emergency plans.
- The community will prepare and approve ordinances required to ensure local implementation with NPG and NIMS.
- The community updates its NIMS implementation/THIRA/SPR using the quarterly surveys.
- The community conducts or participates in and reports all-hazards-based exercises

utilizing the State of Alaska, DHS&EM Exercise After Action Report–Improvement Plan (AAR–IP). The form can be found at [AAR-IP Short Form 2018 Fillable.pdf \(alaska.gov\)](#).

- Emergency management staff and key elected officials participate in ongoing all-hazard training. All EMPG personnel shall complete, at a minimum, FEMA Independent Study (IS) courses IS 100, IS 200, IS 700, and IS 800, and the IS FEMA Professional Development Series (PDS) courses.
- The Emergency Manager or Coordinator shall attend the DHS&EM Preparedness Conference during the award period. They are encouraged to participate in other applicable DHS&EM-sponsored training or outreach events during the award period.

Anticipated FY 2026 EMPG Funding Levels

Anticipated FY 2026 EMPG funding levels will be based on available grant funds and the feasibility of the jurisdiction to expend the funding. When completing the EMPG application, please indicate the funding amount needed for the Emergency Manager or Coordinator position(s) on the Application Coversheet and ensure the amount is supportable with a local match, described below. Below is a list of anticipated award amounts for each jurisdiction. Jurisdictions can apply for more or less funding. Final awards will be determined based on applications received and prior grant performance.

2026 Anticipated Funding per Jurisdiction			
Municipality of Anchorage	\$200,000	Kenai Peninsula Borough	\$200,000
Bristol Bay Borough	\$20,000	City of Ketchikan	\$30,000
Denali Borough	\$40,000	City of Kodiak	\$30,000
Fairbanks North Star Borough	\$160,000	Matanuska-Susitna Borough	\$170,000
City and Borough of Juneau	\$130,000	City of Seward	\$20,000

This grant requires an equivalent dollar-to-dollar local match. For example, if the grant award is for \$20,000.00, the local jurisdiction must be able to provide a hard match of \$20,000.00.

Match funding must be from personnel costs for emergency management activities. Finance and administrative activities associated with administering the grant, such as filing reports or processing EMPG salaries, cannot be used as a local match or charged to the grant for reimbursement with federal funds.

Submitting for Reimbursement and Local Match

Reimbursement must be equal to hours worked. Reimbursement should not be an estimate of time worked in the quarter or calculated as a percentage of the grant (ex. 25% of the grant award every quarter). DHS&EM suggests using the optional Financial Worksheet available on the *Grants Section, Documents* area of the website to lessen the amount of supporting documentation that must be submitted for reimbursement.

The local match must be dollar for dollar. If your jurisdiction expends \$8,000.00 on salary and benefits, then your jurisdiction may receive \$4,000.00 in reimbursement.

Contractor time worked must be certified by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). This can be accomplished by the CFO's signature on contractor timesheets or a memo accompanying the reimbursement request.

Hard–Match

A hard match is a cash contribution from the local government. The hard match must be in the form of staff salaries and benefits.

Since the EMPG Program is funded with federal funds, funds from other federal programs may not be used to fulfill the match requirement.

Local jurisdictions are encouraged to report all eligible emergency management program costs. Additional expenditures are used to justify requests for an increase in funding from the federal program on your behalf.

EMPG Emergency Management Program Requirements

Jurisdictions receiving EMPG Program funds are required to work towards completing all tasks identified and submitted in the annual work plan. In addition, all participants are required to submit quarterly progress reports describing achievements toward the quarterly goals identified in the work plan and any other emergency management program activities, as well as provide a detailed financial accounting of program expenditures.

Failure to comply with EMPG Program requirements may result in a reduction of annual funding and a possible decrease in the current year's award allocation.

NOTE: Participation in exercises and completing ongoing training are integral components of an emergency management program. While these activities are no longer required to be explicitly identified on the Annual Work Plan for the 2026 EMPG, emergency management programs within EMPG jurisdictions are expected to complete exercises and training tasks.

EMPG Mid–Year Grant Review

After completing the 2026 EMPG second quarter grant cycle, DHS&EM will perform a mid–year grant review. Upon completion of the mid–year grant review, if the jurisdiction has spent less than 45% of the awarded funds, DHS&EM will require a detailed spending plan identifying how the jurisdiction will expend the remaining funds. Any significant deviation from the Annual Spend Plan must be explained in the quarterly report covering the period of the deviation.

NIMS Implementation Quarterly Surveys

DHS&EM's goal is to measure community emergency preparedness. The surveys provide information that allows the state to identify gaps in capacity and capabilities, preparedness activities, response assets, and support our return on investment. The surveys will measure preparedness by identifying the jurisdiction's capacity and capabilities by evaluating activities and assets in the five phases of emergency management: prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery.

The jurisdiction's NIMS Implementation Surveys should be completed and submitted quarterly. This is an EMPG Program requirement. More information may be obtained by contacting the DHS&EM Training Section at mva.dhsem.training@alaska.gov.

National Qualifications System (NQS) Implementation

For FY 2026, as a post-award requirement, all recipients must work towards achieving National Qualifications System (NQS) Implementation Objectives. Jurisdictions must work toward achieving the Phase 3 National Qualification System (NQS) implementation objectives. In addition to executing their Implementation Plan, all jurisdictions shall work towards issuing Position Task Books to designated incident workforce personnel and ensure those personnel show progress in working toward task endorsements and minimum training requirements. See the [FY2025 Preparedness Grants Manual](#), Section 12.2.3, National Qualifications System Implementation for more information.

Jurisdictions that began implementation in FY 2026 shall have designed and adopted organizational qualification system procedures, a certification program and credentialing standards for incident workforce personnel in alignment with the NIMS Guideline for the National Qualification System. All other jurisdictions (including territories and FY 2026 EMPG Program subrecipients) are required to work toward implementation of NQS by developing an Implementation Plan, using the FEMA-provided template; see [National Qualification System Supplemental Documents | FEMA.gov](#)

Statewide implementation of the National Qualification System will be facilitated by local adoption of the Alaska All-Hazards Qualification System. Guidance for adoption and implementation can be found on the Alaska Intrastate Mutual Aid System webpage; see [DHS&EM | Alaska Intrastate Mutual Aid System](#).

Develop a multi-year Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) and participate in the State of Alaska Multi-Year Integrated Preparedness Plan Workshop (IPPW)

Creating an effective capabilities-based preparedness program begins with an Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP), which establishes overall preparedness priorities and outlines a multi-year schedule of preparedness activities designed to address those priorities and validate capabilities. Local jurisdictions must develop a useful multi-year Integrated Preparedness Plan (IPP) and submit the IPP to DHS&EM by **March 1** every year. The FEMA Prep Toolkit templates are the required format for IPP submissions. Templates and guides can be accessed from the FEMA Preparedness Tool Kit at <https://preptoolkit.fema.gov/>.

- In accordance with the NIMS Training Program, Incident personnel are required to complete training within their assigned focus area and level of responsibility.
- The G0402 Incident Command System Overview for Executives and Senior Officials course should be conducted after local elections so elected officials, city/county managers, and agency administrators understand their responsibilities during a disaster.
- G0300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents and G0400 Advanced ICS for Command and General Staff training should be conducted at least twice yearly, once each spring and once in the fall.
- G0191 Emergency Operations Center/Incident Command System Interface course should be scheduled once per year. G0191 provides an opportunity for emergency management and response personnel to begin developing an Incident Command System (ICS)/Emergency Operations Center (EOC) interface for their communities.
- Grantees should encourage and offer instructor training opportunities to assist with sustaining a local training capability. Developing and maintaining an instructor cadre will help with closing identified training gaps.
- Grantees must coordinate all “G” course offerings through the State Training Office at least 30 days before delivery when the completion certificate is expected to be provided by DHS&EM. The State Training Office can be contacted at mva.dhsem.training@alaska.gov.
- Grantees are encouraged to request specific training offered by our National Training Partners that close core capability gaps identified in their IPP; see <https://www.firstrespondertraining.gov/frt/nppcatalog>.
- Grantees are required to attend the State’s annual IPPW, which is usually held in conjunction with the State Emergency Management Conference.

Distribution Management Plan (DMP)

Jurisdictions must develop a Distribution Management Plan (DMP). Distribution management is an activity that encompasses all organizations, processes, systems, and tools used to move commodities from one location to another to deliver resources to disaster survivors quickly. Large-scale disasters often disrupt regular supply chains, triggering the need for temporary relief supply chains that address critical emergency supplies such as food, water, and fuel. This temporary distribution management system is managed by SLTT agencies or voluntary, faith-based, or community-based organizations.

Distribution management at the SLTT level includes:

- End-to-end commodity and resource management.
- Warehouse and transportation operations to effectively and efficiently distribute supplies to staging areas and distribution points.
- Provision of equipment and services to support operational requirements.
- A mechanism for supplies and commodities to be provided to survivors.

The DMP must meet the guidelines specified in the FEMA Distribution Management Plan Guide 2.0. The guide can be accessed at [Distribution Management Plan Guide 2.0 \(fema.gov\)](https://www.fema.gov/dmp)

Jurisdictions must complete the FEMA National Disaster & Emergency Management University (NDEMU) Independent Study (IS) NIMS Training Courses

In addition to training activities aligned to and addressed in the IPP, all EMPG Program-funded Emergency Management coordinators, Assistant Coordinators, and other staff members whose salary is supported by EMPG Program funding, including those performing emergency management duties and documented as the required match, must complete the following courses by EMPG-funded personnel by December 31, 2026: **All required training certificates must be submitted to the State Training office at mva.dhsem.training@alaska.gov. Completion certificates will be documented in the Acadis Readiness System on the individual's profile.**

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.aspx>

IS 100	Introduction to the Incident Command System, ICS 100
IS 200	Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response
IS 700	An Introduction to the National Incident Management System
IS 800	National Response Framework, An Introduction

Jurisdictions must complete the FEMA Independent Study Professional Development Series (PDS) or the EMPP Basic Academy

Emergency Management Coordinators, Assistant Coordinators, and other staff members whose salary is supported by EMPG Program funding, including those performing emergency management duties and used as required match, must complete Professional Development Series (PDS) or the Basic Academy by September 30, 2027.

Other jurisdiction staff members and local elected officials are also encouraged to complete EM courses. For more information, please get in touch with the DHS&EM Preparedness Section at (907) 428-7000.

<http://training.fema.gov/IS/searchIS.aspx?search=PDS>

The following classes are recommended for EMPG-funded personnel by DHS&EM:

IS 29	Public Information Officer Awareness
E/L/K 0101	Foundations of Emergency Management
E/L/K 0102	Fundamentals of Threats and Hazards
E/L/K 0103	Planning: Emergency Operations
E/L/K 0146	Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)
E/L/K 0105	Public Information Basics
IS 288	Role of Voluntary Agencies in Emergency Management
IS 393	Introduction to Hazard Mitigation
IS 1300	Introduction to Continuity
IS 650	Building Partnerships with Tribal Governments
IS 706	NIMS Intrastate Mutual Aid –An Introduction
IS 2000	National Preparedness Goal and System Overview
AWR-401-W	Threat and Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment, Stakeholder Preparedness Review
IS 2200	Basic Emergency Operations Center Functions
IS 2500	National Prevention Framework, an Introduction
IS 2600	National Protection Framework, An Introduction
IS 2700	National Mitigation Framework, an Introduction
IS 2900	National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) Overview
IS 2901	Introduction to Community Lifelines

Course information regarding the above-listed training courses can be found at <https://www.firstrespondertraining.gov/frts/npccatalog>.

Training must be documented in quarterly progress reports and kept in local jurisdiction records throughout the performance period. **All required training certificates must be submitted to the State Training office at mva.dhsem.training@alaska.gov. Completion certificates will be documented in the Acadis Readiness System on the individuals profile.**

Conduct or Participate in All-Hazards Exercises

Emergency management programs funded through the EMPG should conduct or participate in exercises on a regular basis. Jurisdictions should coordinate with DHS&EM before conducting an exercise. Following any local all-hazards exercises, the State of Alaska, DHS&EM Exercise After Action Report–Improvement Plan (AAR–IP) should be submitted to the DHS&EM exercise officer and with the following quarterly progress report. The current reporting form is available on the DHS&EM grants website at [AAR-IP Short Form 2018 Fillable.pdf \(alaska.gov\)](#). Updated versions may also be requested from the DHS&EM exercise officer. For more information, please get in touch with the DHS&EM Preparedness Section at (907) 428-7000.

NOTE: Communities that experience a state or federally-declared disaster event during the grant performance period shall be considered to have satisfied this requirement, and a DHS&EM AAR–IP must be submitted for the disaster.

2026 EMPG Grant NIMS Assurances

In FY 2026, jurisdictions should achieve, or be actively working to achieve, all of the NIMS Implementation Objectives in all areas.

- Jurisdictions that have received past funding should achieve, or be actively working to achieve, all of the NIMS Implementation Objectives in all areas.
- New jurisdictions should work towards achieving, or be actively working to achieve, all of the NIMS Implementation Objectives in all areas.
- The grantee is recommended to contact the DHS&EM Training Section to schedule needed training.
- Once the training has been conducted and the final roster and student evaluations have been sent to DHS&EM Training, Planning, and Grant Sections, the grantee will receive credit.

2026 EMPG BASELINE REQUIREMENTS

Submit the 2026 EMPG Application, Funded Staff Worksheet, Staff Budget, Work Plan, Signatory Authority Form, and to mva.grants@alaska.gov **on or before 11:59 p.m., Friday July 31, 2026.**

Provide Quarterly Progress Reports

Progress reports are required to be submitted on a quarterly basis.

- Quarterly performance reports must be submitted using the EMPG Performance Progress Report form. These reports should outline the actions taken and the progress made toward completing the tasks outlined in the Annual Work Plan.
- Quarterly financial reports must be completed using the Financial Progress Report form and submitted along with back-up documentation detailing the allocation of Program funds.

The forms can be found on the DHS&EM website at [DHS&EM | Grants Section Documents \(alaska.gov\)](#). Deadlines for submitting EMPG Quarterly Reports are listed in Quarterly Reporting Requirements on page 20.

Participate in DHS&EM Emergency Management Training and Outreach Programs

Support communication with other emergency managers and coordinators by: Required participation at the DHS&EM Emergency Management Conference. These conferences are held in conjunction with the State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) and Local Emergency Planning Committee Association (LEPCA) meetings. At the time of publication, the next scheduled SERC and LEPC meeting will be in October 2026.

Attendance at other DHS&EM-sponsored regional training and outreach activities may

meet the above participation requirements. Contact the DHS&EM EMPG Program Project Manager for more information.

Improve Local and Regional Emergency Partnerships

In those jurisdictions where an organized LEPC is in operation, the jurisdiction's emergency manager or coordinator shall be required to meet and coordinate with the LEPC. Additionally, all jurisdictions should seek opportunities to establish local and regional emergency planning and response partnerships.

Identify Specific Goals in the Annual Work Plan

The following examples are essential to any community emergency management program. The DHS&EM goal in listing these is to provide full credit for the work already being performed at the local level. For additional information, refer to the Federal Program Requirements.

- **Emergency Management and Operations Plans**
 - Maintain a current EOP that is aligned with guidelines set out in Comprehensive Preparedness Guide (CPG) 101: Developing and Maintaining Emergency Operations Plan
 - Modifying existing incident management and emergency operations plans
 - Developing or enhancing large-scale and catastrophic event incident plans
 - Develop or enhance comprehensive emergency management plans
- **Continuity of Operations (COOP) and Continuity of Government (COG)**
 - Developing or enhancing COOP and COG plans
 - Developing or enhancing financial and administrative procedures for use before, during, and after disaster events in support of a comprehensive emergency management program
 - Public and private sector outreach and messaging regarding continuity resilience strategies.
- **Whole Community Engagement and Planning**
 - Developing or enhancing emergency management and operations plans to integrate citizen, volunteer, and other non-governmental organization resources and participation.
 - Provide training and other support as necessary to assist local jurisdictions in developing further preparedness through community, school, private sector, and business outreach.
 - Build new partnerships to expand planning and citizen capabilities.
 - Community-based planning to advance “whole community” security and emergency management.
 - Public education and awareness of emergency management and preparedness
 - Planning to foster public-private sector partnerships.
 - Brief civic groups and senior citizens on local hazards and family preparedness plans
 - Conduct awareness, individual response training, and evacuation drills in schools.

- Integrate program design and delivery practices that ensure representation and services for disaster vulnerable, at-risk populations that may be more impacted by disasters, including children, seniors, individuals with disabilities or other access and functional needs, non-English speaking individuals, individuals with lower economic capacity, and other at-risk populations
- Conduct workshops on the local Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP)
- Arrange for disaster preparedness and response information to be included in utility bills or as inserts in the local newspaper.
- Publish emergency preparedness information in the local telephone directory.
- Prepare an emergency preparedness calendar for distribution throughout the community.
- Work with and provide training opportunities to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) (where LEPC exists)
- Public education and awareness
- Develop or formalize agreements through letters or memorandums of understanding (MOU) to clarify mutual expectations, if existing, with local agencies or private organizations that can assist with emergency planning, preparation, response, or recovery.
- Develop intra-state mutual aid agreements that encourage building partnerships across all levels of government, tribal organizations, non-governmental organizations, and private entities in neighboring jurisdictions.
- Program evaluations
- Planning for transitioning from congregate sheltering to non-congregate sheltering options for families unable to return to their pre-disaster homes
- Development of Standard Operating Procedures that address continuity and recovery of emergency communication systems
- Cyber incident, Cyber risk to critical Infrastructure, Cyber event consequence management plans
- **Resource Management Planning**
 - Developing or enhancing logistics and resource management plans
 - Developing or enhancing volunteer and donations management plans
 - Planning to mobilize and deliver governmental, non-governmental, and private sector resources to save lives, sustain lives, meet basic human needs, stabilize the incident, and transition to recovery, to include moving and delivering resources and services to meet the needs of disaster survivors
- **Mitigation Plans**
 - Conducting a hazard analysis and risk assessment before mitigation plan development
 - Developing or enhancing all-hazards mitigation plans
- **Shelter and Evacuation Planning**
 - Developing or enhancing evacuation plans, including plans for alerts,

warnings, crisis communications, pre-positioning equipment for areas potentially impacted by mass evacuations, sheltering, and re-entry into affected areas.

- Identify plausible, worst-case threats and hazards.
- Identify planning gaps and capability shortfalls.
- Identify access and functional needs considerations.
- Identify animal evacuation considerations.
- Identify embarkation/debarkation sites.
- Development of a phased-zone evacuation approach
- Development of evacuation plans in accordance with exacerbated risk (e.g., mass evacuation during catastrophic fast-moving events, like wildfires)
- **Pre-Disaster Recovery Planning**
 - Disaster housing plans to support a local disaster housing task force and develop or enhance local disaster housing plans.
 - Develop pre-event response, recovery, and mitigation plans in coordination with State, local, and tribal governments.
 - Developing or enhancing other response and recovery plans
- Develop recovery plans and preparedness programs consistent with the principles and guidance in the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) that will provide the foundation for recovery programs and whole community partnerships. Preparedness and pre-disaster planning were given special attention within the NDRF with specific guidance: *Planning for a Successful Disaster Recovery* (pages 63-70). For more information on the NDRF, see the [National Disaster Recovery Framework. National Disaster Recovery Framework | FEMA.gov](#)
- **Recovery Planning**
 - Developing or enhancing long-term recovery plans
- **Training and Exercises**
 - Developing, updating, enhancing, or conducting training activities
 - Developing, updating, enhancing, or conducting exercise activities
- **Additional EMPG Program-Related Activity**
 - Any additional emergency management activities not identified in the 2026 Work Plan.
- **Emergency Management Organization Program**
 - Programs must continue to fund all necessary aspects of the emergency management program that support day-to-day preparedness, response, and recovery activities, including mitigation efforts.

For further details or prior approval of eligible additional EMPG program-related activity, contact the DHS&EM Project Manager at (907) 428-7000.

Quarterly Reporting Requirements

All EMPG Program grant subrecipients must file a two-part quarterly progress report for each reporting period. These two reports are a quarterly EMPG Performance Progress Report to document grant-related activities undertaken by the jurisdiction during the reporting period and a quarterly EMPG Financial Report that documents requests for

reimbursement and the expenditure of grant funds.

The reporting forms are provided at the DHS&EM website, [DHS&EM | Grants Section Documents \(alaska.gov\)](https://dhsandem.alaska.gov/Grants/Section Documents).

Email the completed and signed forms with all required backup for the quarterly reports to the DHS&EM Grants Section at mva.grants@alaska.gov.

Scheduled Report	Jurisdiction Reporting Period	Quarterly Report Due Dates
1st Quarter	October 1st – December 31st	January 20th
2nd Quarter	January 1st – March 31st	April 20th
3rd Quarter	April 1st – June 30th	July 20th
4th Quarter	July 1st – September 30th	October 20th
Progress reports shall be submitted to DHS&EM by the date specified on the schedule. Should the grant period be extended for any reason, a modified report schedule will accompany the award amendment.		

Quarterly Performance Progress Reports

Use the designated EMPG Performance Progress Report form to document all EMPG Program activities for each reporting period. Both the Emergency Manager or Coordinator and the local Signatory Official or their delegates must sign the EMPG Performance Progress Report as documented on the Signature Authority Form.

Quarterly Financial Progress Reports

Quarterly financial reports shall consist of the following:

- The EMPG Quarterly Financial Report form must be completed and signed by both the Chief Financial Officer and the Project Manager/Coordinator (or their authorized delegates). The authorized signers must be the same individuals listed on the Signature Authority Form.
- Supporting documentation must include source documents suitable for audit purposes, including, but not limited to:
 - Copies of payroll warrants; and
 - Payroll time sheets and leave registers; or
 - Payroll transaction reports certified by the Chief Financial Officer; or
 - Completion of the Optional EMPG Payroll worksheet, available at <http://ready.alaska.gov/grants>, may be utilized instead of the above documentation for reimbursement of personnel costs and documentation of the local match.

Note: The signatures of the Project Manager, Signatory Official, and Chief Financial Officer or delegate must be from three different people.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR EMPG PROGRAM APPLICATION AND WORK PLAN

Applying for EMPG Program Funding

Jurisdictions apply to participate in the program by submitting a complete FY 2026 EMPG application package. Preparing the application will necessitate drafting an Annual Spend Plan, Annual Work Plan and identifying goals for improving local emergency preparedness and response.

Required Contents of the EMPG Program Application Package

- EMPG Application
- Funded Staff Worksheet
- Staff Budget
- Work Plan

- Signatory Authority Form

Signatures Required on EMPG Program Documents

Specific individuals, as identified on the Signatory Authority Form and on the grant award, must sign specified EMPG obligating documents (award, amendments, etc.).

These officials are:

- **Signatory Official:** An individual authorized by the governing body of the applicant jurisdiction or organization to apply for, accept, or decline grants on behalf of the organization. For local governments, this is typically the Mayor or City Manager.
- **Chief Financial Officer:** This should be the Chief Financial Officer or Treasurer of the applicant jurisdiction or organization. This is the person whom the DHS&EM staff will contact if questions arise regarding the financial aspects of the grant.
- **Project Manager:** The Project Manager, usually the Emergency Manager or Coordinator, is directly responsible for carrying out tasks outlined in the Annual Work Plan and is supported by grant funds. The Project Manager is the primary point of contact for DHS&EM for EMPG-related matters.

Please see the Signatory Authority Form instructions for more information on signatories and signatory delegations allowed on quarterly progress reports.

SUBMITTING THE EMPG PROGRAM APPLICATION PACKAGE

DHS&EM must receive applications **by 11:59 p.m., Friday, July 31, 2026**

A signed application must be submitted by email to mva.grants@alaska.gov

AWARD FUNDING and NOTIFICATIONS

DHS&EM will notify successful applicants of their EMPG Program award amount in an award letter accompanied by the obligating award document.

FY 2026 funding awards will be contingent upon the satisfactory completion of deliverables funded in the current and prior years, including the timely submission of quarterly reports. The DHS&EM Director may reduce the baseline FY 2026 funding award to a community that has yet to complete deliverables funded in the previous fiscal year(s). Additionally, DHS&EM will continue to monitor the performance of applicants who fail to submit a quarterly report by the due date, and funding may be withheld for recurring poor performance. Monitoring this grant by DHS&EM staff may include technical assistance, site visits, and desk audits. Communities that have not completed deliverables in prior years may be subject to Special Conditions until the successful accomplishment of any Special Conditions; funding may be withheld.

NOTE: The anticipated EMPG award date from FEMA is September 2026.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For the State of Alaska EMPG Program, the only allowable costs are those relating to necessary and essential state and local emergency management personnel expenses. Emergency Management is the managerial function charged with creating the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters through coordination, integration, and encouragement of the improvement, development, and sustainment of mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery capabilities for all-hazards. Funds provided under the EMPG Program may and should be used to support local staff who contribute to terrorism consequence management preparedness. Specifically, allowable personnel expenses would include:

Personnel Compensation and Benefits

Federal contributions for this category of expenses are limited to compensation and benefits paid to, or on behalf of, personnel whose paid positions are reported on the applicant's current EMPG Request for Funds and have an acceptable current position description that includes the specific emergency management duties and functions of the employee on file at DHS&EM or submitted as a supplement to the applicant's Request for Funds. EMPG funds may not be used to pay personnel costs of additional staffing for disaster operations.

Retirement Funds

The federal share of any payment to a retirement fund must be in a prorated amount apportioned based on time worked in a position while it was federally assisted and so reported on the Staffing Pattern. The cost must be related to a particular fiscal year and be charged only while that year's funds remain available.

Full-Time or Part-Time Status

Personnel will not be funded as full-time employees under the EMPG Program unless they are performing emergency management program elements included and identified in an approved local statement of work, are required by such projects and their current job description to devote full-time to emergency management, and tasks are specifically included in the Annual Work Plan submission. EMPG Program funding is allowable in the case of an individual with a part-time position in an emergency management agency while at the same time holding a separate part-time position in another department or the private sector, provided the duties of the other position do not conflict with or impair the emergency management functions assigned to the individual.

Contractors

The use of contractors to perform the eligible activities of the EMPG Program is allowable in lieu of staff salary and benefits. Contractor selection must follow proper procurement procedures, and pre-approval of contract scope and contractor selection is required. Time and billing records must be kept demonstrating that the costs charged to emergency management are in accord with emergency management activities and must be certified by the financial officer.

Personnel of Other Agencies

Personnel compensation and benefits for an employee of a department of local government other than emergency management, including persons serving as full-time or part-time local emergency program managers or coordinators, are allowable for federal contributions under the following conditions:

- The employee must be assigned on a regular, continuing basis to emergency management duties under the official personnel system of the particular local jurisdiction.

Elected Officials (full-time or part-time)

Salaries paid to persons who are full-time elected officials are not allowable costs for a federal contribution under the EMPG Program. Salaries of local emergency management employees who also hold a part-time elective office by appointment to fill a vacancy may be allowable for a matching contribution under the EMPG Program. It must be demonstrated that the holding of such elective office does not conflict with or impair the performance of the emergency management duties for which salaries are being paid. Time and attendance records must be kept demonstrating that the costs charged to emergency management are in accordance with the time and effort spent on emergency management activities.

State Single Audit and Major Program Thresholds

Unless additional audit requirements are imposed by state or federal law, a recipient of state financial assistance that expends a cumulative total equal to or greater than \$750,000 during the entity's fiscal year is required to submit an annual single audit per 2 AAC 45.010.

Certification of Compliance with Foreign National Vetting Requirements

Starting in FY 2025, FEMA non-disaster NOFOs included explicit requirements for the vetting and documentation of foreign nationals for subrecipients planning to charge personnel costs to federal awards. The NOFO states, *Subapplicants should not have foreign nationals or noncitizens included. If a subapplicant has foreign nationals, they must be properly vetted and must adhere to all government statutes, policies, and procedures including "staff American, stay in America" and security requirements.* To ensure this is met, FEMA requires a Subrecipient Certification of Compliance with Foreign National Vetting Requirements letter be submitted to DHS&EM, as the State Administrative Agency (SAA). This letter must be completed and submitted with the EMPG local application. More information on this requirement can be found in *FEMA Grant Programs Directorate Information Bulletin No. 568, Policy and Process for Foreign National Vetting in FEMA Non-Disaster Grant Programs* located here- <https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/about/informational-bulletins>

Compliance with Terms and Conditions

Subrecipients will certify that they have read, understood, and accept the Grant Terms and Conditions, the Grant Requirements, and Assurances and Agreements, and any Special Conditions on their FY 2026 awards. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Standard Terms and Conditions- <https://www.dhs.gov/publication/dhs-standard-terms-and-conditions>, flow down to subrecipients unless a term or condition specifically indicates otherwise. The EMPG program is also governed by 2 CFR Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards- <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/part-200>, the FY 2026 EMPG Notice of Funding Opportunity; the FEMA Preparedness Grants Manual- <https://www.fema.gov/grants/preparedness/manual>, and this State Local Grant Guidance document.

Grant Information and Assistance Contact Information

For further information and assistance:

Contact the DHS&EM EMPG Project Manager at (907) 428-7000, toll-free 800-478-2337
